

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 06360 081049Z

15

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 081039Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9997

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 6360

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, LA

SUBJ: POSSIBLE DEMARCHE ON MILITARY ACTIVITY IN LAOS

REF: VIENTIANE 3061

1. WE VERY MUCH DOUBT THAT, GIVEN THE MOMENTUM OF EVENTS IN INDOCHINA, MOSCOW WOULD BE INCLINED TO URGE RESTRAINT ON HANOI OR THE PATHET LAO IF THEY HAVE INDEED DECIDED ON A STRONG MILITARY PUSH IN LAOS. IN ANY CASE, IT WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY NEED A HIGH-LEVEL EFFORT ON OUR PART EVEN TO GIVE THE SOVIETS PAUSE. ACCORDINGLY, IF THE DISQUIETING SIGNS PROVE OUT, WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT THE SECRETARY TAKE UP THE MATTER DIRECTLY WITH DOBRYNIN. I COULD ALSO FOLLOW UP HERE.

2. SHORT OF SUCH AN APPROACH, THE SOVIETS WOULD SIMPLY REPEAT THEIR SUPPORT FOR SOUVANNA, THE COALITION GOVERNMENT, AND FOR PEACEFUL EVOLUTION BUT WOULD REFRAIN FROM TAKING ACTION TO AFFECT WHAT THEY PROBABLY CONSIDER TO BE A FOREGONE CONCLUSION.
STOESSEL

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NNN

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